

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. MAYOR BARBARA W. VAUGHN DIRECTOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

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## **BREAKING OUT: Piccolo Spoleto features Work of Intellectually Challenged Adults**

**CHARLESTON, S.C.**—Charleston City Hall will house an exhibition of eclectic works from eight intellectually challenged adults, entitled BREAKING OUT, during Piccolo Spoleto, May 22 to June 7. The exhibit will be displayed in the first floor hallway and open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. City Hall is located at 80 Broad St., on the corner of Broad and Meeting Streets.

"BREAKING OUT provides an opportunity for these intellectually challenged adults and artists to express their thoughts through art, breaking down the walls raised through their disabilities," says Paula Byers, co-coordinator of the exhibition. "From pottery to paintings and drawings, audiences will observe that the world of these talented artists is brightened by their inner light and that the world of these talented artists are just as exciting, complicated, happy and sad as anyone else's."

The public is invited to an opening reception at City Hall, May 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Artists include Eddie Gregory who paints realistic landscapes and Chris Peery who specializes in abstract landscapes; Donnie Driggers excels in colored pencil drawings of cartoon characters; Chris Pilcher creates geometric abstracts; Jerald Fraser specializes in school buses and gas stations drawn on recycled paper; Joey Helgret loves landscapes while Michael Bonyne focuses on seascapes; Christian Royal is a potter. Works by Mark Goldmintz (d 2008) are also included.

The exhibition is sponsored by The Hulsey Law Firm and is coordinated by Special Olympics of South Carolina, City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, VSA Arts of South Carolina and the South Carolina Arts Commission.

Piccolo Spoleto, established in 1979 by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, is the official outreach program of Spoleto Festival USA. Piccolo Spoleto receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency with additional support from Title Sponsors Publix and Publix Super Markets Charities.

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Editor's Note: High res images available upon request

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